

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical packaging means for dispensing a single dose of an oxygen-sensitive drug comprising a plurality of unit doses of an oxygen-sensitive drug, a lid and a blister: wherein each unit dose of said plurality of unit doses is individually encapsulated between said lid and said blister by means of a sealable laminate deposited on said lid; and an oxygen absorber that is UV-activated is incorporated into said laminate, said blister, said lid, a layer interposed between said laminate and said lid, or a combination thereof such that said oxygen absorber removes at least a portion of oxygen from the air surrounding said oxygen-sensitive drug wherein the oxygen content of the air surrounding said oxygen-sensitive drug is maintained at a level less than or equal to about 10.0% for about two years and wherein degradation or discoloration of said oxygen sensitive drug is reduced by at least about 20%.

2 (original) The pharmaceutical packaging means of Claim 1 wherein said oxygen absorber is incorporated into said layer interposed between said laminate and said lid.

3. (original) The pharmaceutical packaging means of Claim 1 wherein said oxygen absorber is incorporated into both said blister and said layer interposed between said laminate and said lid.

4. (canceled)

5. (canceled)

6. (canceled)

7. (canceled)

8. (original) The pharmaceutical packaging means of Claim 1 wherein the oxygen content of the air surrounding said oxygen-sensitive drug is maintained less than or equal to about 5.0% for about two years.

9 (original) The pharmaceutical packaging means of Claim 1 wherein the oxygen content of the air surrounding said oxygen-sensitive drug is maintained at a level less than or equal to about 1.0% for about two years.

10. (original) The pharmaceutical packaging means of Claim 1 wherein the oxygen content of the air surrounding said oxygen-sensitive drug is maintained at a level less than or equal to about 0.5% for about two years.

11. (original) The pharmaceutical packaging means of any one of the preceding claims wherein said oxygen-sensitive drug comprises a pharmaceutically active ingredient selected from the group consisting of amines, phenols, sulfides and allylic alcohols.

12. (original) The pharmaceutical packaging means of any one of the preceding claims wherein said oxygen-sensitive drug comprises an oxygen sensitive excipient.

13. (original) The pharmaceutical packaging means of any one of the preceding claims wherein said oxygen-sensitive drug comprises an oxygen-sensitive pharmaceutically active compound.

14. (original) The pharmaceutical packaging means of Claim 13 wherein said oxygen-sensitive pharmaceutically active compound is a basic drug having a pKa value from about 1 to about 10.

15. (original) The pharmaceutical packaging means of Claim 13 wherein said oxygen-sensitive pharmaceutically active compound is a basic drug having a pKa value from about 5 to about 9.

16. (original) The pharmaceutical packaging means of Claim 13 wherein said oxygen-sensitive pharmaceutically active compound has a redox potential less than or equal to about 1300 mV.

17. (original) The pharmaceutical packaging means of Claim 13 wherein said oxygen-sensitive pharmaceutically active compound has a redox potential less than or equal to about 1000 mV.

18. (original) The pharmaceutical packaging means of Claim 13 wherein said oxygen-sensitive pharmaceutically active compound is selected from the group consisting of pseudoephedrine, tiagabine, acitretin, rescinamine, lovastatin, tretinoin, isotretinoin, simvastatin, ivermectin, verapamil, oxybutynin, hydroxyurea, selegiline, esterified estrogens, tranlycypromine, carbamazepine, ticlopidine, methyl dopahydro, chlorothiazide, methyl dopa, naproxen, acetaminophen, erythromycin, bupropion, rifapentine, penicillamine, mexiletine, verapamil, diltiazem, ibuprofen, cyclosporine, saquinavir, morphine, sertraline, cetirizine, and N-[[2-methoxy-5-(1-methyl)phenyl]methyl]-2-(diphenylmethyl)-1-azabicyclo[2.2.2]octan-3-amine.

19. (canceled)

20. (original) The pharmaceutical packaging means of Claim 1 wherein degradation or discoloration of said oxygen sensitive drug is reduced by at least about 50%.

21. (original) The pharmaceutical packaging means of Claim 1 wherein degradation or discoloration of said oxygen sensitive drug is reduced by at least about 75%.

22. (canceled)

23. (canceled)

24. (canceled)

25. (canceled)

26. (canceled)

27. (canceled)

28 (canceled)

29. (canceled)

30. (canceled)

31. (canceled)

32. (canceled)

33. (canceled)

34. (canceled)